REMARKS

The remaining claims are amended in a further effort to define novel and patentable subject matter over the art of record. Claim 6 is cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-12, 14-20, and 27 remain in this application, with no claim previously allowed.

Claims 1-3, 5-12, and 14-20 were rejected as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. That rejection asserted that "comment... visible at a discrete location within the document" was not described in the specification in sufficient detail to enable one of ordinary skill how to display the comment within the document. The rejection further asserts that the comment appears to be overlaid on the document, not included within it.

The Applicants respectfully traverse, especially with respect to the alleged "overlaid" nature of the comment. However, the Applicants have revised the wording of the claims by replacing "discrete locations within the document" with wording such as (in Claim 1) --at a comment block of the document--. Antecedent basis for "comment block" appears in the specification, for example, at page 4, lines 20-24, and the synonymous term "comment box" appears, for example, at page 18, lines 13 and 26. Those skilled in the art will recognize that document-creation software functioning to add comments (including the author's name) to a document was known in the art prior to making the present invention. See, for example, the discussion on page 2, first full paragraph, of the specification.

In view of the foregoing and the present amendments to the claims, the Applicants submit that the claims as presently amended comply with the enablement requirement under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph.

Concerning the Examiner's argument that the comments appear to be overlaid on the document, not included within the document, Applicants again point to page 2, lines 15-20 which mentions the times and places in which the author's name shows up in a document, "when you add a comment to a document " (line 18 of page 2). Page 18, lines 5-26, also show that a comment and its contents added to a document are part of the document. The comment boxes and their contents thus are part of each document and remain with that document, unless the contents of the comment box are removed or substituted as described in the present application.

Claims 1-3, 5-12, 14-20, and 27 remained rejected as anticipated by "Staroffice", as stated in paragraph 7 of the last Office action. The Applicants respectfully traverse that rejection.

The Applicants have amended Claim 1 to make clear that the personal information is stored by a document-generating application which makes that personal information visible at a comment block of the document. Activating the privacy option of the document-generating application removes from the document one or pieces of the personal information. Furthermore, the method of Claim 1 requires replacing that removed personal information with generic information visible at each comment block of the document. Claim 1 thus defines a method not anticipated by Staroffice.

That reference describes a so-called "Properties" dialog box including an "apply user data" checkbox enabling display of the author's name. Screenshot No. 1 of

Staroffice illustrates the Properties dialog box with the checkbox selected. By deselecting "Apply User Data", Screenshot No. 2, the author's name is no longer displayed in the fields of the Properties dialog box. However, re-selecting the "Apply User Data" box (Screenshot No. 3) causes the author's name (Jack Beanstalk) to reappear in the Properties dialog box of Staroffice. That sequence of deselecting and then re-selecting the "Apply User Data" box, which restores the author's name to the Properties dialog box, clearly illustrates that the author's name is not removed from the document, as required by the method of Claim 1. Instead, and contrary to Claim 1, deselecting that box in Staroffice merely removes the author's name from the display screen, but not from the document itself. Staroffice thus discloses, at best, removing the author's name from display in the fields of the properties box, but not removing it from the document itself.

The Applicants recognized and addressed the difference between merely removing information from the "memory representation" of the document visible to the user and present in the memory of the computing system, vs. removal from the "file representation" of the document saved to the disk or other permanent record of the computing system. Please see page 11, pages 19-28 of the specification. The present disclosure makes clear that the Applicants claim removing information from the document by activating the privacy option of the present invention. Please see, for example, page 10, lines 23-28; page 11, lines 1-7 and 28-32; page 12, lines 11-14 and 22-26; and elsewhere in the present disclosure. The Applicants thus submit that their invention, as defined in Claim 1, comprises removing personal information from a document upon activating a privacy option of the application that generates the document. Staroffice fails to teach the step of removing personal information from the

document, as that reference clearly illustrates *restoring* the author's name in response to *re-selecting* the user-data checkbox. If that information were indeed removed from the document in Staroffice, that information could not be restored thereafter merely by re-selecting a checkbox. For these reasons, the Applicants submit that Staroffice fails to anticipate a method including the elements and the overall combination of elements required by Claim 1.

Claim 2 depends from Claim 1 and adds that the first document is saved <u>with the generic information replacing the moved personal information</u>. The present amendments to Claim 2 thus emphasize that the personal information is <u>removed</u> from the document and <u>replaced</u> in that document with the generic information, which finds antecedent basis in Claim 1. Staroffice fails to disclose removal of personal information from the document, and thus also fails to disclose replacing that <u>removed</u> personal with generic information. For this additional reason, Claim 2 is novel over Staroffice.

Claim 7 depends from Claim 2 and adds that saving the document removes personal information from display in the comment block appearing within the first document. As previously discussed, Staroffice teaches only a Properties dialog box for viewing and editing properties of StarWriter documents. That properties box does not appear within the document, as that term is disclosed by the present Applicants and used in Claim 7 and elsewhere. Accordingly, Staroffice cannot anticipate a method having the further limitations of Claim 7.

Dependent Claim 8 defines a method for removing personal information from a visible comment block in a second document, comprising creating a template of the second document from the first document produced by the method of Claim 1. The

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rejection of Claim 8 asserts that the Screenshots. Nos. 1 and 2 of Staroffice show the same document —styled as a *template* in the rejection— creates a new or second document containing the updated information. The Applicants traverse that interpretation of Staroffice. Even after deselecting the "Apply User Data" block and then saving the document, re-selecting that checkbox restores the author's name displayed in the Properties dialog box (Screenshot No. 3). Nothing in Staroffice discloses or teaches using a first electronic document from which personal information is removed to create a second electronic document likewise lacking that personal information. Accordingly, Claim 8 is novel over Staroffice.

Independent Claim 11 likewise defines a method in which activating a privacy option of a document-generating program removes personal information from the document and from the comment block within the document, without deleting that document. Claim 11 further requires replacing the removed personal information with generic information visible in the comment block within that document. The foregoing arguments regarding novelty over Staroffice apply as well to Claim 11 and the claims depending therefrom. Staroffice fails to anticipate a method including a privacy option that, upon activation, removes personal information from the document. Moreover, because Staroffice does not disclose a document-generating program producing a comment block within the document, that reference also fails to disclose removing personal information from a comment block within the document. For these reasons alone, Claims 11 et al. are novel over Staroffice.

Dependent Claim 15 further emphasizes that saving the document removes the personal information from that document and from the comment block of the document,

or replaces the personal information with generic information <u>in the document and the</u> <u>comment block</u> of that document. As pointed out above, Staroffice fails to anticipate those added limitations of Claim 15, and that claim is novel over the reference.

Dependent Claim 16 covers the situation, addressed by the present invention, in which *new* personal information is entered into the document after activating the privacy option of that document. In that situation, the new personal information is either <u>removed from the document</u> or <u>replaced with generic information</u> (1) as soon as added to the document, or (2) when a user replies to an "OK" prompt provided by the document-generating program, or (3) as soon as the document is closed. (Claim 16 thus addresses an aspect of the present invention disclosed at page 11, line 28 through page 12, line 29.) These further limitations added by Claim 16 find no anticipation whatsoever by Staroffice. Accordingly, Claim 16 is patentable over that reference.

Independent Claim 19 defines a computer-readable medium having stored instructions for removing personal information from a comment block within an electronic document. That method comprises activating a privacy option provided by those instructions, which <u>removes</u> personal information from the document and <u>replaces</u> that removed information with generic information visible in the comment block of the document. Staroffice fails to anticipate Claim 19, for the reasons discussed above. Accordingly, that claim and dependent Claim 20 are novel over Staroffice.
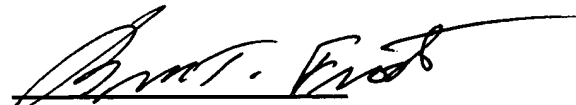
The foregoing arguments regarding novelty over Staroffice apply as well to all dependent claims not specifically addressed herein.

The foregoing is submitted as a complete response to the Office action identified above. The Applicants respectfully submit that all claims remaining in this application are novel over the art of record and solicit a notice to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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